

**CG ESTATE PLANNING & FINAL AFFAIRS HANDBOOK
FEEDBACK FROM THE RETIREE COMMUNITY**

On Jun 11, 2025, at 12:43 PM, Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA)
<Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil> wrote:

CGNRC/RRCs, NRHD, PPC: Thanks to all who helped in carrying out this highly important CGNRC Priority. The *CG Estate Planning & Final Affairs Handbook*, a *living* document, will be a lasting CGNRC legacy of great benefit to Coast Guard Active-Duty, Reserve, Retired, and Auxiliary members, Civilian employees, Annuitants, Survivors, and other Uniformed Services.

The GovDelivery *Bulletin Detail Report* and initial responses from retirees are attached. The handbook will be mailed initially to CG Retirees, Annuitants, and Former Spouses aged 65 and older, with limited mailing to those under 65, as requested (e. g. 48 year old retiree depicted in initial responses).

Thanks again to all. **BZ!!!**

r/
Bob

Bob Hinds
Retiree Services Program Manager
USCG Commandant (CG-1M13)
Office: 202-475-5451
E-Mail: Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil
www.dcms.uscg.mil/retiree
CWO4 (Ret), Honorary CG MCPO

From: Michael Henderson <dawgnav@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2025 4:07 PM
To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Fwd: CG Estate Planning & Final Affairs Handbook

Mr. Hinds,

I wanted to thank you for this outstanding planning tool. I have tried - unsuccessfully - over the past few years to cobble together something similar. But, you folks have done a very good job and I appreciate it.

All the best, and
V/R,

Michael E Henderson
Commander, NOAA Corps, Ret.
1012 Moore Rd
Cairo GA 39828-6966
C: 813-629-4165
E: DawgNav@gmail.com

**CG ESTATE PLANNING & FINAL AFFAIRS HANDBOOK
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From: Kyle Shaw <kylearnoldshaw@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, October 13, 2025 3:07 PM
To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Estate Planning & Final Affairs Handbook

Good Afternoon Mr. Hinds,

I received my handbook the other day and want to thank you and let you know it is the best thing I have received from the Coast Guard since I retired 19 years ago!

I have all of the information but it is just not in a real easy to read format. Your handbook takes care of that.

Thank you again,

Kyle Shaw
Capt (Ret) USCG

From: Elizabeth A Beek Blackford <HardAground@outlook.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 11, 2025 9:23 AM
To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] THANK YOU!

Greetings Mr. Hinds,

Being retired, I'm fairly tuned out of Coast Guard affairs, but I wanted to write and thank you for ensuring wide enough distribution of this announcement that even I saw it. I haven't read through this new manual yet, but it's a big step in the right direction of taking care of our members well past their service years. I've now dealt with chronic caregiving and death in my family often enough to know the ropes, and am glad to know our younger members don't have to learn it all the hard way. Please convey my thanks and congratulations to the team that pulled this together.

Seems to me that you've been around for as long as I can remember. I hope you are looking forward to your own retirement. Thank you for looking out for so many of us!

Beth

Elizabeth A. Blackford
Chief Warrant Officer 3, USCGR, Retired
321-622-2633-m
Palm Bay, FL

**CG ESTATE PLANNING & FINAL AFFAIRS HANDBOOK
FEEDBACK FROM THE RETIREE COMMUNITY**

From: O'Neill Dewey <oneill@trustandwill.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 11, 2025 8:53 AM
To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Trust & Will + Estate Planning & Final Affairs Handbook

Hi Bob,

I saw you announced yesterday the new handbook you'll be sharing with Coast Guard military retirees. Such a great resource, thanks for helping to put it together!

My company has helped over 1 million families (including many vets) to create their estate plan online saving time and money. We're partnered with Navy Federal, USAA, Navy Mutual, GovX and many other military affiliated organizations. Please feel free to include a link to any of those partner pages within any online resources you have:

- Navy Federal: <https://www.navyfederal.org/investment-services/estate-planning.html>
- Navy Mutual: <https://www.navymutual.org/trust-and-will-estate-planning-services/>
- USAA: <https://www.usaa.com/inet/wc/wills-and-trusts>
- GovX: <https://www.govx.com/a/9d2bc801-b82a-4774-9d15-8ddd684fe47e/trust-will>

If there are any other ways to collaborate more directly with the CG we'd love to discuss!

All the best,
O'Neill

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O'Neill Dewey
Partnerships Manager
781-317-4334 | [LinkedIn](#)
[Trust&Will.com](#) | [Trustpilot User Reviews](#)

From: E. T. Powers <etanusa@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 11, 2025 3:28 PM
To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Coast Guard estate planning

Dear Mr. Hinds

My husband is a Coast Guard retiree.

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I'd like to ask about your [free estate planning program](#), specifically to create a trust that will take care of a recently diagnosed brother with dementia and a disabled adult son with a Medicaid Waiver who's living in a group home.

How long after we fill out the estate planning information forms can we expect our trust? We live in Ashburn, VA. Where do we go to consult a Coast Guard attorney and finally sign the trust?

Also, do you also serve Public Health veterans? My brother-in-law is retired Public Health Uniformed Corps.

Thank you,

Evelyn Tan Powers 571-228-5247

From: Rich Etheridge <retheridge@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 11, 2025 3:04 PM
To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: CG Estate Planning & Final Affairs Handbook

Bob: Great publication! BZ to all those involved.

v/r

Rich Etheridge, YNCS, USCG (Ret.)

From: BERT KINGHORN <STILLY1@aol.com>
Sent: Wednesday, June 11, 2025 1:50 PM
To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>
Cc: Sean M CMC McPhilamy <seanmcphilamy@mac.com>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: CG Estate Planning & Final Affairs Handbook

Good job, Bob. And thank you to all who helped. ~bert

From: Stephen Wehrenberg <stephen.wehrenberg@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, October 12, 2025 10:08 PM
To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Estate Planning & Final Affairs Handbook

**CG ESTATE PLANNING & FINAL AFFAIRS HANDBOOK
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Bob, just a wild guess, but I'm pretty sure you had a big part in making this happen. I can't speak for all retirees, but I can thank you for making it possible. A great one-stop resource. I'll be 75 in November, so things like this have assumed a greater meaning in my life as time goes by.

Stay safe, and let's hope we can survive this moment in our history.

Steve

Stephen Wehrenberg, Ph.D., RFSPE

stephen.wehrenberg@gmail.com
301-259-1144

From: charlesahuber@verizon.net <charlesahuber@verizon.net>
Sent: Saturday, October 11, 2025 2:55 PM
To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] DA Self Service Acoount

Dear Mr. Hinds,

In your letter forwarding the Estate Planning guide it stated we should keep our email updated in the DA Self Service Account. After going to the mentioned web site I could not see how to set up an account or to sign into an account if I had one. I would appreciate your advice.

Also thank you for getting this project completed. I had the pleasure of talking with Mike Rosecrans and sharing estate planning information with him as I was developing a plan for my wife. This document will be of great assistance to many in preparing their estates.

Sincerely,
Charlie Huber

From: rwagner737 <rwagner737@verizon.net>
Sent: Thursday, September 25, 2025 6:41 PM
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] FW: Share VA Burial and Memorial Benefits with Veterans and Families

**CG ESTATE PLANNING & FINAL AFFAIRS HANDBOOK
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As some of you know I recently had to utilize the Albert G Horton Veterans cemetery upon the death of my dear wife Karen. Having planned far ahead for times like these with a Funeral Home and the cemetery made it very easy to dwell on her and our memories together.

Please don't put it off any longer. It was thought that I would be utilizing all of this before Karen due to my health and age but Our Lord and Savior had other plans.

She finished the work He sent her to do and she was called home.

God bless you.

Richard

From: Johnson, Will D CAPT USCG COMDT (USA) <Will.D.Johnson@uscg.mil>
Sent: Monday, July 21, 2025 1:10 PM
To: COMDT-CG-1M1 <COMDT-CG-1M1@uscg.mil>
Subject: CG Estate Planning & Final Affairs Handbook

CG-WMM-2 Team,

As mentioned during today's office sync, this is the superb estate planning tool that RADM Raymond championed and Mr. Hinds delivered. It may well help your families through one of the hardest times in their lives—your death—by ensuring critical information about finances, bills, wills, trusts, and more are in an easy-to-find place.

This is the kind of planning that no one enjoys doing, but I have personally witnessed the impacts of not having done it. Please, take the time to go through the handbook, complete Appendix B, and keep a copy somewhere safe where your family can find it if, God forbid, they need it.

Stay safe, stay prepared,
-CAPT Johnson

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert Treat <treatsfleet@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, July 13, 2025 12:37 PM
To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] CG Handbook

Hi Bob,
Your assistance, when Bob died three years ago, was most appreciated and necessary. The process at that time was difficult for maneuvering through the system.

I am so pleased to see there is now a handbook for spouses and family to follow.

CG ESTATE PLANNING & FINAL AFFAIRS HANDBOOK FEEDBACK FROM THE RETIREE COMMUNITY

Thank you for all your efforts in publishing this handbook. It is a important resource at a time of emotional stress.

There is so much more than just filing after death.....great getting your life in order info for oneself and family !
So many don't know where even to begin the process.

Thanks again,

Jeri Treat

From: Cheng, Stephen C LT USCG COMDT (USA) <Stephen.C.Cheng@uscg.mil>

Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2025 10:50 AM

To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>

Subject: Coast Guard releases Estate Planning & Final Affairs Handbook for military members

Great job sir!!!

Nice to see something of immense value come to fruition from the CGNRC!

Very Respectfully,

LT Stephen Cheng

U.S. Coast Guard

Assistant Commandant for Command, Control, Communications, Computers and Information Technology (C4 & IT)

[Commandant (CG-6) | Front Office]

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From: doug.houpt@suddenlink.net Houpt <doug.houpt@suddenlink.net>

Sent: Monday, June 16, 2025 11:53 AM

To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Estate Planning Guide

Mr. Hinds,

What a clever approach to estate planning. I love the concept and happy to see the USCG taking the lead. The other armed services need to get on board. Each service could contribute time and money to tailor this guide to their specific needs, if any. No reason to reinvent the wheel, but service specific ideas could benefit more military members and thier families.

Can you mail a copy to me? If so, thanks. If not, I understand.

**CG ESTATE PLANNING & FINAL AFFAIRS HANDBOOK
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Doug Houpt

17650 Briarpatch

Lindale, Texas 75771-7044

USAF retiree

From: ROBERT MC LAUGHLIN <rceemclaughlin@comcast.net>
Sent: Thursday, June 12, 2025 6:56 PM
To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: CG Estate Planning & Final Affairs Handbook

Bob,

Nice to see this. Good to see that you're still at work at the helm!

Best regards,
Rob McLaughlin

From: Steve Venckus <svenckus1@verizon.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 10, 2025 9:14 PM
To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: CG Estate Planning & Final Affairs Handbook

Thank you, Bob

This will really be helpful to me and my family!.

Best wishes

Steve Venckus

From: Dennis Davenport <makemgo@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 10, 2025 8:36 PM
To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] "The One Step in The Grave Handbook!"

Bob, this is an outstanding idea! This should have been done years ago, but that's water under the keel.

**CG ESTATE PLANNING & FINAL AFFAIRS HANDBOOK
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Sincere Regards,
Dennis L Davenport, ENG4, RET.

From: Deb and Jeff MASHBURN <themashburns@comcast.net>
Sent: Tuesday, June 10, 2025 7:32 PM
To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Fwd: CG Estate Planning & Final Affairs Handbook

Hello Mr. Hinds,

I wanted to let you know that I got this email and am getting ready to look through it, but wanted to tell you I think it is great you pulled something like this together.

I will compare it against what I have already prepared much of which you provided to me and I really did appreciate that.

I will also provide you with comments on the document if you would like. That is up to you.

But, I am sure this will be an incredible help to those retirees that begin to think about what happens to their stuff when they die and what needs to be done.

Take care, Robert and again, on behalf of so many people that do not have something established to use to prepare for the end of life, thanks.

Jeff Mashburn

From: Kurt Nance <krn12345@msn.com>
Sent: Tuesday, June 10, 2025 7:19 PM
To: Hinds, Robert C CIV USCG COMDT (USA) <Robert.C.Hinds@uscg.mil>
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Re: CG Estate Planning & Final Affairs Handbook

Robert -

This is a fantastic resource. While I have already completed many of the action items mentioned - its nice to see the USCG providing this resource.

Tks!

Kurt Nance